

TRANSCRIPTION - ORIGINAL FOLLOWS

1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT

2. [ILLEG] LFADER SEBGHATULLAH MOJADADDI, WHO LED HIS PARTY OUT OF THE SHURA ON FEBRUARY 14 (REFTEL), LED THEM BACK IN ON FEBRUARY 18. THE SHURA IS CURRENTLY IN SESSION, WITH ALL OF THE PESHAWAR-BASED ALLIANCE PARTIES REPORTEDLY TAKING PART.

3. THE QUESTION OF THE INCLUSION OR EXCLUSION OF THE EIGHT TEHRAN-BASED SHIA PARTIES IS STILL UNRESOLVED. THE SHURA IS CONSIDERING A REPORT PREPARED BY A COMMITTEE OF THIRTY FIVE DELEGATES ON THE QUESTION. SOME OF OUR CONTACTS CLAIM THAT THE COMMITTEE IS RECOMMENDING THAT THE WHOLE SHURA TAKE A VOTE ON THE ISSUE. THE AFGHAN SHIA EIGHT-PARTY ALLIANCE IS STILL IN TOWN, WHICH INDICATES TO US THAT THEY HOPE A DEAL CAN BE WORKED OUT. [WORDS EXCISED]
[2 LINES EXCISED]

4. COMMENT: EVERY FACTION WITHIN THE SHURA IS PUTTING OUT ITS OWN VERSION OF, AND DISINFORMATION ABOUT, ALL THE BACKROOM MANEUVERING THAT IS GOING ON. THERE ARE NO

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NEUTRAL SOURCES OF INFORMATION. EVEN THE OFFICIAL PRESS OUTLET FOR THE SHURA AFGHAN NEWS AGENCY IS IN FACT, CONTROLLED BY ONE OF THE PARTIES, HEZBI ISLAMI-GUIBUDDIN, AND IS DISTORTING THE NEWS ACCORDINGLY. OUR READERS SHOULD, THEREFORE, BE PREPARED FOR ALL SORTS OF CONTRADICTORY PRESS ACCOUNTS TO SURFACE OVER THE NEXT SEVERAL DAYS.

5. THE SHURA IS CARRYING ON, HOWEVER SLOWLY, WITH ITS WORK. THIS IS NO SMALL ACHIEVEMENT, GIVEN THE HIGH STAKES INVOLVED, AND THE DEEP DIVISIONS WITHIN THE RESISTANCE. REACHING AN AGREEABLE DECISION WILL BE DIFFICULT, AND WILL CERTAINLY TAKE SOME TIME.

